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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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- 6. Troops in the Kushka area were issued overcoats, but since the winter weather was not severe and there were no sudden temperature drops, the coats were never worn.
- 7. The troops in Kushka were issued tropical uniforms consisting of a straw Panama-type hat, a linen blouse with wide loose cuffs and airholes under the armpits, linen breeches, summer underwear, summer footwraps and standard issue boots. The men always carried canteens. On training problems, units had water in large plastic bags as well as in trailers. In garrison, there were several water tanks and showers to provide relief from the heat for the troops. Salt tablets were not used; the use of salt as a protective measure was not encouraged.
- 8. New arrivals were given first aid training in heat exhaustion and sunstroke. The victims were placed in a shady area, their clothing was loosened and their faces bathed with water. After treatment, they were allowed to rest. Those who had sunstroke soon acclimated themselves no one was evacuated either for sunstroke or for heat exhaustion.
- 9. Malaria, intestinal virus, diarrhea, and appendicitis were prevalent among men stationed in the Kushka area. In addition, there was a local disease known as "pindinka". It was caused by a parasite which burrowed into the skin and left splotches about the size of a half-dollar. The splotches persisted anywhere from a month to five years. The skin was left with ugly scars or holes. several soldiers suffering from this disease.
- 10. Troops were inoculated against tetanus, typhus, and dysentery.
 Inoculations were administered annually. They were given in a combined form.

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 two or three inoculations were given each time.
- 11. There were no special quarantine measures employed on the Afghanistan-Soviet border.
- 12. Selection of men for the Border Guard Troops was on a political rather than physical basis.
- 13. No psychiatric care was practiced among MVD troops.
- 14. Sulfa drugs and antibiotics were available in sufficient quantities in the medical sections of military units for use in the treatment of infectious diseases.

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